

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 104 and 125. A complete copy of the claims including marked-up versions of each claim which is amended in this Amendment appears below.

1. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product, said reclosable bag comprising:

a single sheet of web material having first, second, third, and fourth edges wherein said first and second edges are respectively located opposite each other in said single sheet of web material and said third and fourth edges are respectively located opposite each other in said single sheet of web material, said single sheet of web material comprising a fold located therein intermediate said first and second edges of said single sheet of web material to define two opposite sides of said reclosable bag, said single sheet of web material also having two areas of structural weakness that are respectively located on opposite sides of said fold, said first and second edges of said single sheet of web material being located adjacent each other to define an opening therebetween which is distally located with respect to said fold; and

a reclosable fastener structure comprising two releasably engageable tracks each having a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom, said reclosable fastener structure being located in said fold with said skirt structures respectively extending toward said first and second edges of said single sheet of web material;

17 said skirt structures each including a distal margin;  
18 said distal margins of said skirt structures being respectively coupled to said web material  
19 on said opposite sides of said reclosable bag at opposed locations which are respectively  
20 located between said areas of structural weakness and said opening;  
21 said releasable engageable tracks of said reclosable fastener structure extending past said  
22 areas of structural weakness and into said fold structure;  
23 said two opposite sides of said reclosable bag being sealed at said first and second edges  
24 of said single sheet of web material to define sides of said reclosable bag, said reclosable  
25 bag being capable of being filled with at least one food product through said opening  
26 intermediate said first and second edges of said single sheet of web material, following  
27 which said first and second edges of said single sheet of web material are sealed together  
28 to enclose the at least one food product inside said reclosable bag.

1 2. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein the skirt  
2 web material is integral to the reclosable fastener structure.

Claims 3-5 (Cancelled).

1 6. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said web  
2 material of said reclosable bag is substantially comprised of a sheet of a parent film  
3 material having predetermined dimensions.

1 7. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 6, wherein the areas  
2 of structural weakness are integral to said parent film.

1 8. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas  
2 of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of  
3 web material.

1 9. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 8, wherein the  
2 predetermined dimension is width.

Claims 10-13 (Cancelled).

1 14. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas  
2 of structural weakness extend across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web  
3 material in a predetermined pattern.

Claim 15 (Cancelled).

1 16. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas  
2 of structural weakness comprise scoring.

Claim 17 (Cancelled).

1 18. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said sheet  
2 of web material is comprised of a multiple laminate film.

1 19. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 18, wherein said  
2 multiple laminate film includes at least one layer of material comprising a tear path.

Claim 20-74 (Cancelled).

1 75. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag, said pre-packaged cheese bag  
2 comprising:

3 a single sheet of web material having first and second pairs of opposite edges, said  
4 first pair of opposite edges being located adjacent each other to define a bottom of said  
5 bag, a fold structure located midway between said first pair of opposite edges in said  
6 single sheet of web material defining a top of said bag with said second pair of opposite  
7 edges respectively defining two opposite sides of said bag, two predetermined tear areas  
8 being located essentially parallel to and on opposite sides of said fold structure, an  
9 opening being defined between said first pair of opposite edges;

10 a reclosable fastener structure including two releasably engageable fastener tracks  
11 each having a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom, said skirt  
12 structures each including a distal margin, said distal margins being respectively coupled  
13 to said web material on said opposite sides of said bag at predetermined locations on the

14 sides of said bag which are located intermediate said predetermined tear areas and said  
15 first pair of opposite edges;  
16 wherein said fastener tracks extend above said tear areas into said fold structure;  
17 said two opposite sides of said bag being respectively sealed at said first and second  
18 edges to define sides of said bag, said pre-packaged cheese bag being filled with at least  
19 one cheese through said opening between said first pair of opposite edges of said sheet of  
20 web material, following which said first pair of opposite edges of said sheet of web  
21 material are sealed together to enclose the at least one cheese inside said bag.

Claims 76-78 (Cancelled).

1 79. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,  
2 wherein said skirt web material is integral to said reclosable fastener structure.

Claims 80-81 (Cancelled).

1 82. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,  
2 wherein said web material of said pre-packaged bag is substantially comprised of a sheet  
3 of a parent film material having predetermined dimensions.

1    83.    (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,  
2    wherein said two predetermined tear areas comprise two areas of structural weakness and  
3    wherein said fold structure is located between and defined by said two areas of structural  
4    weakness.

1    84.    (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 83,  
2    wherein said areas of structural weakness are integral to said parent film.

1    85.    (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 83,  
2    wherein said areas of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined  
3    dimension of said sheet of web material.

1    86.    (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 85,  
2    wherein said predetermined dimension is width.

Claims 87-92 (Cancelled).

1    93.    (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,  
2    wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise scoring.

Claims 94-103 (Cancelled).

1 104. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,  
2 said reclosable bag comprising:  
3 a single rectangular sheet of web material having first, second, third, and fourth  
4 edges, said sheet of web material having a fold structure located midway between said  
5 first and second edges and two areas of structural weakness which are located in said  
6 sheet of web material on opposite sides of said fold structure, said fold structure  
7 separating said sheet of web material into front and back sides of said reclosable bag, said  
8 first and second edges being located adjacent each other to define an opening  
9 therebetween which opening is distally located with respect to said fold;  
10 a reclosable fastener structure having two releasably engageable fastener halves  
11 each ~~including~~ having a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom, said  
12 skirt structures each having a distal margin, wherein said distal margin of said skirt  
13 structure of one of said fastener halves is coupled to said web material on said front side  
14 of said reclosable bag between the one of said areas of structural weakness on said front  
15 side of said reclosable bag and said opening, and wherein said distal margin of said skirt  
16 structure of the other of said fastener halves is coupled to said web material on said back  
17 side of said reclosable bag between the one of said areas of structural weakness on said  
18 back side of said reclosable bag and said opening;  
19 wherein said fastener halves of said reclosable fastener structure ~~extend past~~ are located  
20 above said areas of structural weakness ~~into~~ and within said fold structure;

21 said front and back sides of said reclosable bag being sealed at said first and second  
22 edges, said reclosable bag being capable of being filled with at least one food product  
23 through said opening between said first and second edges, following which said first and  
24 second edges are sealed together to enclose the at least one food product inside said  
25 reclosable bag.

Claims 105-106 (Cancelled).

1 107. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 104, wherein said  
2 areas of structural weakness define a tear off portion located therebetween, said tear off  
3 portion being capable of being removed by tearing along said areas of structural  
4 weakness.

1 108. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 107, wherein at least  
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the portions of  
3 said sheet of web material when said tear off portion has been removed therefrom.

1 109. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 107, wherein said  
2 fastener halves extend beyond the portions of said sheet of web material when said tear  
3 off portion has been removed therefrom.



1 110. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas  
2 of structural weakness define a tear off portion located therebetween, said tear off portion  
3 being capable of being removed by tearing along said areas of structural weakness.

1 111. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 110, wherein at least  
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extends beyond the portions of  
3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion has been  
4 removed therefrom.

1 112. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 110, wherein said  
2 releasably engageable tracks of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the  
3 portions of said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion  
4 has been removed therefrom.

113.-121. (Cancelled).

1 122. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 75, wherein said  
2 predetermined tear areas define a tear off portion located therebetween, said tear off  
3 portion being capable of being removed by tearing along said predetermined tear areas.

1 123. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 122, wherein at least  
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the portions of  
3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion has been  
4 removed therefrom.

1 124. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 122, wherein said  
2 fastener tracks extend beyond the portions of said sheet of web material opposite said  
3 opening when said tear off portion has been removed therefrom.

1 125. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,  
2 said reclosable bag comprising:

3 a single sheet of web material having a centrally located fold separating said sheet  
4 of web material into a front panel and a rear panel;  
5 a said front panel having a top, a bottom, and sides;  
6 a said rear panel having a top, a bottom, and sides, said tops of said front and rear panels  
7 coinciding at said fold, said sides of said front and rear panels being coupled together, an  
8 opening being located between said bottoms of said front and rear panels;

9 an area of structural weakness located in each of said front and rear panels below  
10 said tops of said front and rear panels and extending between at least a substantial portion  
11 of said sides of said front and rear panels, the portion of said sheet of web material  
12 located intermediate said areas of structural weakness forming a tear off portion; and

13           a reclosable fastener assembly extending between said sides of said front and rear  
14 panels and comprising first and second interlockable fastener tracks each having a skirt  
15 structure of skirt web material extending downwardly therefrom, said skirt structures  
16 each including a distal portion, said distal portion of said skirt structure of said first  
17 fastener track being oriented toward said opening and being coupled to said front panel  
18 below said area of structural weakness located in said front panel, said distal portion of  
19 said skirt structure of said second fastener track being oriented toward said opening and  
20 being coupled to said rear panel below said area of structural weakness located in said  
21 rear panel;  
22 wherein at least a substantial portion of the lengths of said first and second interlockable  
23 fastener tracks of said reclosable ~~slider~~ fastener assembly which extend between said  
24 sides of said front and rear panels extend completely above said areas of structural  
25 weakness, and wherein said reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at least one  
26 food product through said opening.

1   126. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said tear  
2 off portion is capable of being removed by tearing along said areas of structural  
3 weakness.

1   127. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 126, wherein at least  
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extends beyond the portions of

3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion has been  
4 removed therefrom.

1 128. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 126, wherein said  
2 releasably engageable tracks of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the  
3 portions of said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion  
4 has been removed therefrom.

129. (Cancelled).

1 130. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said  
2 fold is located intermediate said areas of structural weakness.

1 131. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said  
2 areas of structural weakness comprise a hermetic seal.

1 132. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein at least  
2 a substantial portion of said areas of structural weakness extend in a direction which is  
3 generally parallel to said first and second interlockable fastener tracks.

1 133. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said  
2 distal portions of said skirt structures of said first and second fastener tracks are  
3 releasably coupled to each other, thereby forming a peelable hermetic seal.

1 134. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said  
2 areas of structural weakness are integral to said web material.

1 135. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said  
2 sheet of web material comprises a multiple laminate film.

1 136. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 135, wherein said  
2 multiple laminate film comprises at least one layer of material comprising said two areas  
3 of structural weakness.

1 137. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein areas of  
2 structural weakness comprise perforations.

1 138. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein areas of  
2 structural weakness comprise microperforations.

1 139. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein areas of  
2 structural weakness comprise scoring.

1 140. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, additionally  
2 comprising:  
3 at least one tear tape structure coupled to said web material and adjacent to at least  
4 one of said areas of structural weakness.

1 141. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, additionally  
2 comprising:  
3 notches in said sides of said front and rear panels which are located adjacent  
4 opposite ends of said areas of structural weakness.

1 142. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 143, wherein opposite  
2 ends of said first and second fastener tracks respectively located at sides of said front and  
3 rear panels are sealed together, thereby retaining said slider thereupon.

1 143. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, additionally  
2 comprising a slider that is moveable on said first and second fastener tracks between  
3 opposite ends of said first and second fastener tracks to selectively engage said tracks  
4 together and disengage said first and second fastener tracks, thereby respectively closing  
5 and opening said reclosable bag.

1 144. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,  
2 said reclosable bag comprising:

3 a single sheet of web material having first, second, third and fourth edges and  
4 including a fold structure which is centrally located therein midway between said first  
5 and second edges which fold structure separates said sheet of web material into front and  
6 rear sides of said reclosable bag, two predetermined tear areas being located in said sheet  
7 of web material on opposite sides of said fold structure and defining a tear off hood  
8 portion which is located intermediate said two predetermined tear areas, an opening being  
9 defined between said first and second edges; and

10 a reclosable fastener structure including two releasably engageable fastener tracks  
11 each having an integral skirt structure of skirt web material extending from a bottom side  
12 thereof, said integral skirt structures each having a distal margin, wherein said distal  
13 margin of said integral skirt structure of one of said fastener halves is oriented toward  
14 said opening and coupled to said web material between the one of said tear areas and said  
15 opening on said front side of said reclosable bag, and wherein said distal margin of said  
16 integral skirt structure of the other of said fastener halves is oriented toward said opening  
17 and coupled to said web material between the other of said tear areas and said opening on  
18 said rear side of said reclosable bag;  
19 wherein at least a substantial portion of said fastener tracks extend entirely above said  
20 areas of structural weakness into said tear off hood portion;

21 wherein said front and rear sides of said reclosable bag are sealed at said third and fourth  
22 edges;  
23 wherein said tear off hood portion is capable of being removed by tearing along said  
24 areas of structural weakness; and  
25 wherein said reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at least one food product  
26 through said opening between said first and second edges of said sheet of web material,  
27 following which said between said first and second edges are sealed together to enclose  
28 the at least one food product inside said reclosable bag.

1 145. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 144, wherein said  
2 hood is capable of being removed by tearing along said tear areas.

1 146. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 145, wherein at least  
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extends beyond the portions of  
3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off hood has been  
4 removed therefrom.

1 147. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 145, wherein said  
2 fastener tracks extend beyond the portions of said sheet of web material opposite said  
3 opening when said tear off hood has been removed therefrom.